

1 1. (Twice Amended) A method for permanent decorative enhancement of
2 a polyethylene surface of a molded polyethylene article which comprises:

3 (a) incorporating a decorative enhancement composition to said
4 polyethylene surface wherein said decorative enhancement
5 composition consists essentially of:

6 (1) a liquid carrier in an amount sufficient to provide the decorative
7 enhancement composition with a consistency and viscosity
8 necessary for application by liquid methods of application; and

9 (2) a first mixture consisting essentially of:

10 (A) a colorant in an amount sufficient to impart a [desired] surface
11 color; and

12 (B) a second mixture consisting essentially of:

13 (i) a binder to provide adhesion of the decorative enhancement
14 composition to said polyethylene surface; and

15 (ii) a particulate thermoplastic powder in an amount sufficient to
16 fuse into and form a permanent bond with the molded
17 polyethylene article; and

18 (b) heating said decorative enhancement composition and said molded
19 polyethylene article to produce a molded polyethylene article
20 having a permanently colored decoratively enhanced surface
21 characterized by said colorant on and in said polyethylene surface
22 of said molded polyethylene article.

1 2. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 39 wherein said liquid carrier
2 comprises 60 to 90 weight percent of said decorative enhancement composition [for
3 ~~use in applying~~ in order to provide said decorative enhancement composition with a
4 consistency and viscosity suitable for application by spray methods.

1 46. (Amended) The method of Claim 44 wherein said particulate
2 thermoplastic powder comprises 70 to 30 weight percent of said second mixture and is
3 selected from the group consisting of polyethelene, polypropylene, and ethylene-vinyl
4 acetate co-polymers wherein ~~said powder~~ has a density from 0.88 to 0.97 and a particle
5 size no greater than 140 microns diameter.

1 47. (Amended) A method for permanent decorative enhancement of a
2 polyethylene surface of a molded polyethylene article, which method comprises the

3 steps of:

4 (a) incorporating a decorative enhancement composition to said
5 polyethylene surface wherein said decorative enhancement
6 composition consists essentially of:

7 (1) a liquid carrier that provides the decorative enhancement
8 composition with a consistency and viscosity necessary for
9 application by liquid methods of application; and

10 (2) a first mixture consisting essentially of:

11 (A) a colorant to impart a [desired] surface color; and

12 (B) a second mixture consisting essentially of:

13 (i) a binder to provide adhesion of the decorative
14 enhancement composition [~~with temporary~~
15 ~~adherence~~] to said polyethylene surface; and
16 (ii) a particulate thermoplastic powder that is adapted
17 to fuse into and form a permanent bond with
18 the molded polyethylene article; and

19 (b) heating said decorative enhancement composition and said molded
20 polyethylene article to produce a molded polyethylene article
21 having a permanent decoratively enhanced surface characterized
22 by a colorant on and in said polyethylene surface of said molded
23 polyethylene article.

1 55. (Amended) The method of Claim 53 wherein said particulate

2 thermoplastic powder comprises 70 to 30 weight percent of said second mixture and is

3 selected from the group consisting of polyethelene, polypropylene, and ethylene-vinyl

4 acetate co-polymers wherein said powder has a density from 0.88 to 0.97 and a particle

5 size no greater than 140 microns diameter.